

Amendment and Response

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For: RESPIRATOR VALVE

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seat, wherein the valve flap has a contour shape, and further wherein at least a portion of the contour shape of the valve flap is at least partially flattened when the valve flap contacts the valve seat.

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15. (Once Amended) A respirator having a unidirectional valve, comprising; a face mask having at least one opening for receiving a unidirectional valve; and a unidirectional valve comprising:

a valve body including a frame, a valve opening through the frame, and a valve seat extending from the frame and at least partially surrounding the valve opening; and

a valve flap having a first portion attached to the frame and an adjacent second portion free to move from a first position where the second portion is in contact with at least a part of the valve seat to a second position where at least part of the second portion is spaced from the valve seat, wherein the valve flap has a contour shape, and further wherein at least a portion of the contour shape of the valve flap is at least partially flattened when the valve flap contacts the valve seat.